

Routes to tour in Germany The German Holiday Route — from the Alps to the Baltic

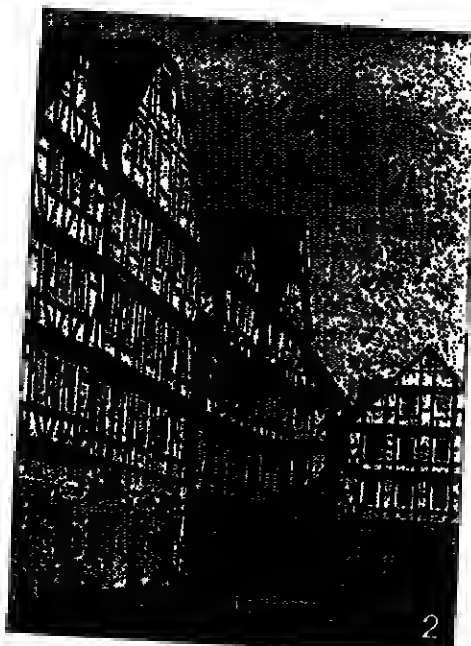


German roads will get you there, and if you plan to see as much as you can, why not travel the length of the country? From the Alpine foothills in the south via the typical Mittelgebirge range to the plains of the north, you will pass through the most varied landscapes. And so you needn't take pot luck in deciding on a route, we recommend the German Holiday Route from the Alps to the Baltic.

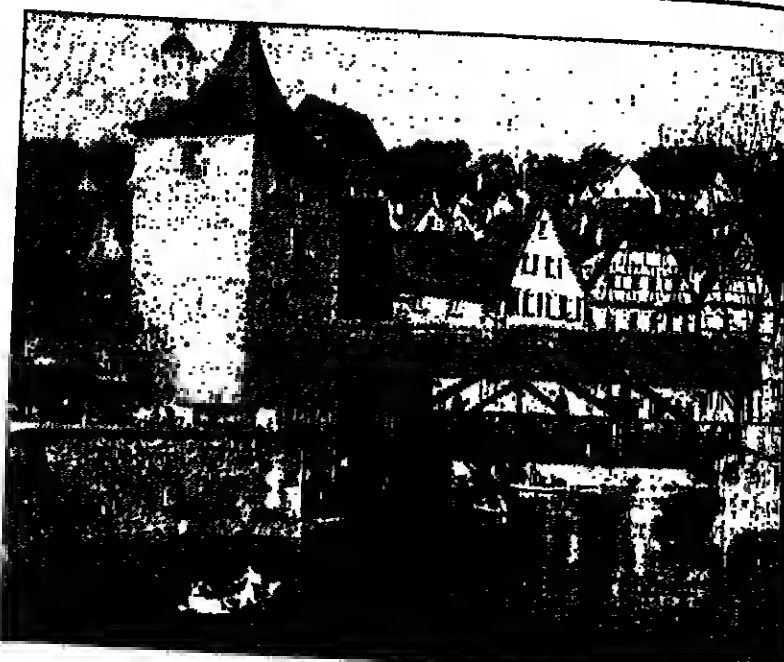
Start in the south with Berchtesgaden and its bob run. Maybe you have already heard tell of Landshut, a mediaeval Bavarian town with the world's largest brick-and-mortar tower. Or of Erbach in the Odenwald, with its castle and the Ivory Museum. Or of Aisfeld with its half-timbered houses, the Harz mountain towns or the 1,000-year-old-Hanseatic port of Lübeck.

Visit Germany and let the Holiday Route be your guide — from the Alps to the Baltic.

- 1 Lübeck
- 2 Melsungen
- 3 Schwäblach Hall
- 4 Berchtesgaden



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US hand may be forced by Lebanon casualties

protecting power in Lebanon (on account of its own losses), it also underlined just what a stabilising element the 30,000 Israeli soldiers south of Beirut and in the Shouf in fact were.

The fact that during the past few days over 100,000 people have fled behind the Israeli lines shows where the best chances of survival are at the moment in Lebanon: in the Israeli-occupied south.

The vacuum left behind to the north of the Awall River has become all the more dangerous. It looks as though this will turn into the scene of a Soviet-American substitute war for power and influence in Lebanon and the Arab world.

Not only are Soviet and American arms involved, the superpowers themselves are at the ready: the Americans and their navy off the Lebanese coast; the Russians in their Syrian artillery positions.

One false move, any kind of military over-reaction by one side or the other, could spark off a real war between the two superpowers.

Both Washington and Moscow are hardly likely to be interested in this. Although the Soviet Union has traditionally stirred up troubles in the Middle East and tried to benefit from the situation, the outbreak of a supranational conflict is too risky an enterprise.



Zambian President Kaunda in Bonn with President Carstens this month. (Photo: dpa)

Namibia on the agenda for Kaunda talks

Nordwest-Zeitung

Kenneth Kaunda, President of Zambia for 20 years, has paid an official visit to Bonn. Zambia is one of Africa's front line states which condemns South Africa's policies.

President Kaunda himself is one of the few politicians in Black Africa who advocates a peaceful solution to the problems facing this part of the world.

As the Federal Republic of Germany is one of the five countries belonging to the so-called "contact group" seeking a solution to the Namibia question, this topic was prominent in discussions with German Foreign Minister Genscher.

Up to now, Kaunda has cleverly steered his country clear of the major international fronts and maintained true non-alignment.

This has not always benefited a country which as a result of this policy has missed out on capital flows from both eastern and western industrialised nations. It is one of the world's most heavily indebted nations.

The visit to the Federal Republic has not only focussed on the political dialogue on South Africa, but also on economic aid from Bonn, not just from the government but also from private sources. Germany will not be able to ignore President Kaunda's request. He himself will have realised, however, that it comes at a very difficult time.

Wolfgang Fechner

(Nordwest-Zeitung, 13 September 1983)

Korean jet: why Greece played down the condemnation

Most other member countries of the EEC expected political surprises during the six-month Greek presidency of the EEC's Council of Ministers. The Greeks have proved them right.

Greece has showed no sign of intending to refrain from its foreign-policy escapades.

The first surprise move came on the missile question: in letters sent to his fellow foreign ministers, Greek Foreign Minister Yannis Charalambopoulos made the suggestion to postpone Nato rearmament by six months should the Geneva talks fail to reach an agreement.

This suggestion has in the meantime been rejected by all those countries in which the missiles would be deployed.

Whereas the Greek socialist government could count on the support of many of its sister parties in Western Europe on this issue, its stance on the shooting down of the South Korean airliner left it out on a limb.

The incident was condemned throughout the western world as a barbaric and brutal act. The Greek government, however, showed great restraint in its initial official statements.

On the day of the tragedy, Foreign Minister Charalambopoulos expressed his "deep sorrow at the loss of the South Korean airliner", yet there was no condemnation of the act itself.

Even after Moscow had admitted to shooting down the plane, the Greeks still kept to their restraint.

It was therefore hardly surprising that Greece was one of the countries which voted against anti-Soviet sanctions by Nato last week. Together with France, Spain, Denmark and Turkey, Greece decided against a resolution accepted by the majority to suspend flights to and from the Soviet Union for a period of two weeks.

Finally, Greece found itself at the centre of a major row during the conference of EEC foreign ministers in Athens last week.

Despite concerted efforts to change the Greek position, Charalambopoulos refused to agree on a joint EEC condemnation of the Soviet Union.

This is not the first time that Papan-dreu's government has stepped out of the Nato and EEC line. The Greeks too

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European security talks go to the next stage



The next stage of the CSCE process is to begin in Helsinki next month just six weeks after the end of the review conference in Madrid.

A preparatory meeting will decide there on the agenda, schedule and procedure for the security conference in Stockholm next January.

Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has welcomed the decision to hold this conference as "one of the most important results in Madrid."

However, the fact that the Soviet Union did everything to try and get the conference held this year does suggest some kind of Soviet trick.

In Moscow's intention to lull the West into a false feeling of security and disarmament?

This kind of thinking definitely stood sponsor to the moves made by Moscow and its Eastern European allies during the second half of the seventies to stage an "Overall European Conference on Military Detente and Disarmament". This desire was reaffirmed by the Warsaw Pact nations in May 1980.

All credit goes to the French President at the time, Giscard d'Estaing, for taking the sting out of this idea via a clever move and turning the whole idea into an instrument of western strategy.

The French proposal sent to all 35 CSCE signatory states in May 1978 suggested dealing on significant and verifiable confidence-building measures relating to the whole European continent, including the European part of the Soviet Union, within the context of a disarmament conference in the CSCE framework.

Bonn, the EEC partners and the Nato allies soon realised that this plan provided the opportunity to rectify a serious shortcoming of the 1975 Helsinki accords.

At the time, it was agreed that confidence-building measures such as the announcement of manoeuvres by

the Soviet Union only referred to an area 250 kilometres wide along the Soviet Union's western border.

There is similar arrangement as part of the Vienna talks on mutual force reduction in Europe.

It is obvious that such a ruling opens up substantial evasion possibilities to the Soviet Union, modifying the significance of disarmament measures substantially.

This explains why Moscow reacted recalcitrantly to suggestions of extending European arms control dialogue to cover the area stretching to the Urals.

Finally, however, the Soviet Union gave way to international public opinion on this point. In February 1981 Leonid Brezhnev signalled basic approval for such a move, "providing the West extends the field of confidence-building measures accordingly."

This, however, was the fly in the ointment. It became clear what intentions the Soviet Union had when they started asking for the whole Atlantic Ocean and if possible parts of Canada and the United States to be included. Later on, they said they would settle for "just" half of the Atlantic.

All this was out of the question for the West. Even leaving the problem open until the planned disarmament conference in Stockholm next year, which would have meant endless discussions by the Russians, could not be accepted.

Agreement was finally reached on the wording "the whole of Europe and the adjacent sea territory" (this was defined more precisely in a footnote: "Oceanic areas bordering on Europe").

Here, military activities were to be considered "insofar as they affect both European security" and also pertain to those activities in Europe for which notification must be given.

Such an agreement is acceptable to the West. For the first time, it has the advantage of greater military transparency via verifiable "confidence-building and security measures" in the whole European part of the Soviet Union.

Of course, following the recent shooting down of the South Korean airliner over Sakhalin, where it became all too

clear how afraid the Soviet Union is of espionage, it is reasonable to express doubts as to whether such plans will materialise.

Nonetheless, there has been a paving of the way in a field which the "peeco movement" permanently underestimates and in which the Soviet Union has a clear supremacy: conventional armament.

At the start of this year, Foreign Minister Genscher aired ideas on conducting special talks on reducing conventional arms in the whole of Europe — in addition to the regionally limited MBFR negotiations which have been an unsuccessful.

However, this proved too difficult to present. Now, at least, there will be efforts to reduce the risk of a surprise conventional attack.

There is a desirable side effect for the West German government when bearing in mind the expected hot autumn of political discontent: it can point towards the new disarmament dialogue with Moscow.

This dialogue can still continue even if agreement cannot be reached in Geneva on western rearmament.

Berni Conrad
(Die Welt, 19 September 1983)

Korean jet

Continued from page 1

a different line to the majority in both organisations on questions of Middle East policies, East-West relations and disarmament.

Two objectives underlie the independent, indeed unpredictable, "multidimensional" foreign-policy course pursued by Papandreu.

On the one hand, the Greek head of government hopes to pacify left-wing opposition at home by means of spectacular "anti-western" action, admittedly with success.

On the other, Papandreu is hoping to gain greater Eastern bloc support for his country's "national questions" by means of a pro-Soviet stance on the most important international issues.

However, up to now Papandreu's plans have not worked out. Although Greece has managed to vex its western partners, it has not received the support from Moscow it is hoping for in its conflict with Turkey on Cyprus.

Ronald Meinardus
(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 18 September 1983)

Refugee report on Germany strongly rejected

the report, which has been written by a colleague.

In fact, Hartling based his suggestions for greater protection for those seeking asylum on the controversial report.

Zimmermann's spokesman also referred to Germany's liberal approach in this field. It was the only country which constitutionally guaranteed rights of asylum.

Talk of compulsory internment or even concentration camps for asylum applicants in West Germany was a blatant defamation of the German system.

As explained later, however, such assertions were not made by the author of

the report herself but by the asylum applicants interviewed.

The FDP interior spokesman, Burkhard Hirsch said that it was completely unfounded to lay down conditions for talks with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Germany should pride itself on its popularity as a country in which many sought to take refuge. This was among other things the result of the unquestioned rule of law in this country, he maintained.

Against the background of the suicide by a Turkish applicant for asylum in Germany, the Federal Minister of Justice, Hans Arnold Engelhard (FDP), it to examine extradition and asylum procedure.

An interministerial work group has been set up with the approval of the Ministry of the Interior and the Foreign Office in Bonn.

Dieter von König
(Kölnischer Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 September 1983)

Bonn's dilemma at the United Nations

Ten years ago, on 11 September 1973, the Federal Republic of Germany became a member of the United Nations.

Joining the UN had more symbolic value than practical importance. The political expectations of the Germans were modest.

Accordingly, the approval of ten years in this organisation, the down-to-earthness of German membership.

Two or three times during the past year, Bonn pointed out its own special issues.

In May 1978, for example, Helmut Schmidt's confidence-building measures for disarmament special UN-conference on arms among the SPD leaders re-emerged. This added a new twist to the international dialogue on the issue was.

On Namibia, Bonn was one of the five initiators of a UN conference, a senior SPD politician, Bohr told this newspaper that the plan for this former German colony would return to the issue and the UN.

In 1976 the Federal Government called a convention against terrorism.

It became a member of the United Nations at the same time as many. Bonn's intention right start was to keep inner-German problems out of the UN. But also showed restraint in his inner-German topics.

Bonn's attention focused on the discussion with the countries on the right of self-determination, on human rights and demands by Third World countries. Improved position in the international economic framework.

For the 40 or so members of the German delegation in the United Nations everyday life has meant work with rigorous attention on political and legal problems. The scenes. Rarely have such hit the headlines.

The sound position of the Republic of Germany within the work of the United Nations was outlined on 21 October 1983 when was voted onto the UN Security Council for a two-year period.

Another high point for West Germany's international reputation was the election of the former UN Secretary-General Rüdiger von Weizsäcker as President of the 35th General Assembly on 16th 1980.

Gerhard Schröder
(Nordwest-Zeitung, 18 September 1983)

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Rank-and-file rebellion over policies

Every day the Social Democrats are being closer to the peace movement. News on the issue of missiles deployment.

The party leadership will not be for tactical reasons. A special party congress has been called for November. But that won't be official line is that the party is for the outcome of the Geneva talks.

In fact, this line is being rejected by rank and file. It would be unfair and indeed untrue to blame all this on weak leadership.

Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel has described his party's position in an outside the Bundestag, as open pending the outcome of the Geneva talks.

can fall back on the resolution of the last national party congress which says as much. He is naturally aware of the fact public opinion is steadily driving towards rejection.

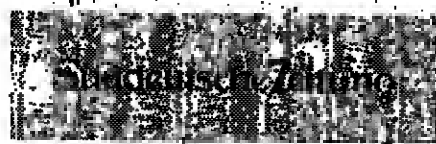
It is possible that SPD unity can only be restored by a sweeping rejection of the party's line.

For this reason that the SPD leadership now contents itself with pointing out the party's congress decisions and issuing recommendations for party resolutions can be nullified by new voting. In this regard, the party congress has replaced by a new party congress.

Karl-Hugo Pruyss
(Bremer Nachrichten, 14 September 1983)

WORLD AFFAIRS

Social Democrat ambivalence on missiles issue has roots in 1979 congress



months, Salt was reaffirmed and the talks had begun.

Salt was not ratified. The talks did not start within six months. So it is surprising that the SPD did stick by its decision for so long.

This was mainly because it did not want to run the risk of collapsing the Schmidt government.

Schmidt was still in government when the SPD congress in Munich in 1982 described the party's aim as achieving conditions that would make the deployment of the new generation of 'missiles' redundant. Schmidt then backed that formula.

The formula was included in the 1983 campaign platform because the party did not want to be accused of changing course straight after going into Opposition.

The SPD has lost a national election since then and is now restructuring itself. The 1979 conflict is still there, though with one difference. The bold 1979 hope that negotiations would make the deployment of the missiles this autumn unnecessary has waned.

The decision by the Baden-Württemberg SPD to oppose the new missiles is partly due to the state of the Geneva talks but the actual reasons go deeper.

What happened there was that emotions that had been pent up for years suddenly came to the fore. As a result, what happened in Offenbourg will

spread to other branches of the SPD by November.

But it is both right and wrong to say that the party is departing from its original security policy line.

The truth is that it is putting political demands in the place of compromise formulae. Foremost of these demands is that Germany reject the deployment of Pershing 1 missiles.

In other words, the party now no longer concentrates its energy on tactical negotiations but on the fundamental aim.

Those who believe that the deployment is necessary will condemn this attitude; and those who accuse the SPD of relieving Moscow of some of the pressure at the bargaining table have logic on their side, although they overestimate the role of the Opposition and its influence on the superpowers.

Those who conclude from this that there is deep dissension between government and opposition on Europe's military security and the consequences of the deployment are right.

It is a dissension that despite the compromises over the years, is due among SPD ranks to their mistrust of the motives of the American Administration and the realisation that neither the old nor the new government in Bonn could act absolutely independently on the issue.

Even Schmidt had a hard time coping with this mistrust when he was in government. He had to promise his party that he would be the first to sound the alarm if it turned out that America was not quite earnest in its negotiations.

The basic question about the future of European security remains unanswered.

This question at the Geneva talks boils down to a dispute about whether the deployment of Pershing 2 missiles would result in more or less security.

If the talks result in a compromise without Pershing 2s, the German opposition won't be able to oppose the rest of the world, especially in view of the fact that its ultimate aim is to keep the superpowers talking.

If the Geneva talks break down, the question as to the guilty party will play a major role.

It is probably with this in mind that Schmidt is to be the main speaker at the special party congress.

He would then have to answer his own question as to whether Washington has really "made an all-out effort" to arrive at a compromise in Geneva.

Martin W. Süskind
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 September 1983)

Lebanon

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of how fragile such truces have been in the past.

The next step towards pacification in Lebanon would be to initiate a national dialogue in which all parties involved in the war take part.

Just a few weeks ago the willingness to make such a move as there; now, however, the positions have hardened.

During his first year in office President Amin Gemayel has not been very successful. It has become more and more clear that he is not the symbol of integration who could run a workable government of national unity.

If he does not step up his efforts to seek a speedy and serious dialogue with all groups, he will soon lose the support of both the Saudis and the Americans.

Heinz Morsberg
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 14 September 1983)

SPD likely to reject deployment

ment, adopted in 1981, will be reaffirmed at the state congress this month. This had already been announced by the state party leader, Günther Jansen. He said that his party wanted no rival to its "number one position as a rejector." He said that it was the first to reject the deployment.

Hamburg (11): the state executive committee has drafted a motion for state this month's state congress demanding a 150-kilometre nuclear-free zone in Europe, as proposed by Sweden's Prime Minister Olof Palme. The left wing is bound to demand a clear rejection of the deployment. But it is still open how the majority will vote.

Bremen (6): Deployment was clearly rejected in May.

Berlin (13): Observers think that the majorities at the state conference will be less clear-cut than in Baden-Württemberg. In all likelihood Berlin will favour follow-up negotiations in case of a breakdown in Geneva.

Lower Saxony (49): The four Lower Saxony district branches have not yet arrived at a uniform decision. No motion on the deployment issue has as yet been drafted for the congress in October. The

strongest chapter, Hanover (24 delegates), is likely to reject the deployment.

North Rhine-Westphalia (120): The nation's strongest chapter, Western Westphalia (59 delegates), will vote on the deployment issue on 8 October. The executive committee has already clearly rejected deployment. The Rhine-Centre chapter (21) rejected the deployment without ifs and buts in May. The other two chapters will decide next month. The outcome is still open.

Hesse (58): Hesse-South (38) is likely to reject at its 8 October meeting. A motion to that effect by the branch executive committee says that "the US is openly striving for military supremacy and the risk-free capability of dealing the first strike." Hesse-North (20) plans no congress. This chapter has endorsed the deployment so far.

Baden-Württemberg (29): The deployment was clearly rejected at the Offenbourg meeting. Bavaria (54): A decision will be made at the congress on October 8. There is a likelihood that the party will vote for continued negotiations and a postponement of the deployment should the Geneva talks fail.

Rhineland-Palatinate (30): Different motions will be put before the three district party congresses in September. The decision by the state party congress on 1 October is still wide open.

The Saar (15): The deployment was clearly rejected in the autumn of 1981. This is likely to be reaffirmed at the state congress next month.

dpa
(Kleiner Nachrichten, 14 September 1983)

Peace movement divided over choice of anti-deployment strategy

The peace movement is split. One camp wants action to lead to immediate results while the other wants to win over public opinion with the aim of getting even more people in human chains, strikes and blockades.

What this boils down to is the attempt to provoke the state into hasty action on the one hand and, on the other, to create a credibility crisis through indirect pressure from a mass movement.

The Greens had invited a group of American pacifists to come to Mutlangen; and before long the Americans urged "stronger action."

Mandy Carter, for 16 years a committed negro member of the War Resisters' League, said tersely: "This is no blockade. It's a waka."

The former Pentagon expert Daniel Ellsberg criticised the essentially symbolic stage, saying: "This isn't the fall of 1982 but the fall of 1983."

He emphasised the pressure of time, adding moral pressure as well by pointing to the peace fasters in Bonn: "Are they suicides? Aren't we all suicides unless we do more?"

The apocalyptic words had their effect — and not only on young people.

Sold Andreas Buro, who has been in part of the Movement from the very beginning: "The Bonn fasters keep giving me pangs of conscience."

But what to do to cap their actions?

The American participants in the demonstration wanted to cut the barbed wire fence surrounding the arms depot and demonstratively invade the installation, and there can be no doubt that they were prepared to risk more than just arrest.

One of the protestors in Mutlangen was Father Philip Berrigan, a member of the Plowshare Eight group, the eight courageous peace fighters who three years ago destroyed several nuclear warheads at the American King of Prussia Technology Centre.

The only thing that prevented Ellsberg and Father Berrigan from escalating the demonstration was TV Pastor Jörg Zink's threat that he would distance himself.

But the moderation won't be for long. If they don't climb the fence in Mutlangen, they will climb it elsewhere. Perhaps at the nearby Pershing base Waldheide near Heilbronn or in Neu-Ulm.

The impression of peacefulness at Mutlangen was deceptive. Frustration spread rapidly under the blazing sun by day and rain by night.

They didn't expect that they would literally be left sitting after four weeks of rehearsing non-violent resistance.

It was this frustration that made the participants receptive to the militants among them.

It was Herwig Jantschik, a 23-year-old conscientious objector, who put into words what many had on their minds: "For me, civil disobedience means taking even more suffering upon myself."

Even such level-headed people as the Berlin Professor Peter Grottel concluded on the second day that "blockade as a form of action is obsolete."

Many asked themselves what form the next phase of escalation should take.

Those who spent day and night in the "Peace Camp" experienced how the

pacification agreed upon between the police and the organisers turned into the opposite that called for a more effective blockade.

Let there be no mistake: nobody wanted any violence; but there were some who hoped to get arrested. It took some doing to prevent one woman from setting herself alight.

To provide a safety valve for the pent-up emotions, Klaus Vack suggested a demonstration in Schwäbisch Gmünd and the encirclement of the Bismarck Barracks where — by no coincidence — his friends Andreas Buro and the spokesman of the "Peace Manifesto Group", Professor Wolf-Dieter Narr, are ably directed the traffic that not a single car or pedestrian was inconvenienced.

But the militant Greens and the Americans, the young and impatient among the participants, wanted stronger action.

Said Ellsberg: "A longer action is a stronger action."

One of the "Alpuquerilla" group seconded him, saying: "The Ols have removed the rockets, now we must prevent them from bringing them back again."

A permanent blockade? For Erhard Eppler (SPD), such a prospect was so disquieting as to prompt the usually

peace sit-ins have been held in Mutlangen and Bitburg. They are likely to start a process of clarification.

The peace movement is in conflict over how to shape its strategy to prevent the deployment of new medium range missiles.

Most politicians, especially those who do not agree with the peace movement's aims, will probably treat Mutlangen and Bitburg as peaceful demonstrations without giving them another thought. But they will join the debate the moment such judicial questions as "legal" or "violent" are raised.

There is nothing new about this. It happened during the disputes over the nuclear power stations in Wyhl and Brokdorf.

There, the demonstrators went beyond the limits of legality.

How dangerous is nuclear power if people go to such lengths to oppose it? This was one of the questions raised in the ensuing debate. As it turned out in the end, Brokdorf dampened the nuclear power euphoria.

The peace movement was out to achieve something similar regarding the deployment of nuclear missiles. The idea was to provoke the public and the politicians into thinking and acting and, ideally, into stopping the deployment.

The peace movement lays claim to being the sole fighter for survival. It does not want to be likened to the older generation that permitted a Hitler to come to power.

Rev. Heinrich Albertz put it this way: "This time, we won't keep quiet — not this time."

This means embarking on the difficult road resulting from the "duty to resist" — a course of action many citizens find difficult to condone and many politicians easy to condemn.

Conventional demonstrations, peace movement followers say, are no longer

conclitatory man to shout at Ellsberg angrily: "Mr Ellsberg, don't you give advice to the German Peace Movement."

It was not only the German Christian raised in the spirit of "love thy enemy" who confronted the Vietnam war veteran in the hour-long dispute. This was also a confrontation between convincing mediators and spontaneous nationalists.

Ellsberg saw the visible success of the Mutlangen action in jeopardy and felt that putting his own life on the line could prevent the deployment.

It is therefore not surprising that he made himself the spokesman of the Bonn fasters and wrote a letter to the Russian leader Yuri Andropov, saying that if Andropov agreed to unilaterally stop nuclear tests for two months and to scrap one SS-20 missile a month, thus starting a disarmament spiral, the Bonn fasters would break off their action.

For Eppler, on the other hand, it was the invisible success that was in jeopardy. His idea is not to put off the "three-quarters of the people who silently oppose the deployment."

Notwithstanding his great respect for the fasters, he said, "I see my function differently."

Sit-in heralds imminent hot autumn

enough to exert sufficient pressure on those in power.

The result is no end of slogans and intricate legal points.

There is, for instance, the fact that the two-track NATO decision is rooted in clear majority votes in all established parliaments in this country. There is therefore no need in constitutional terms for the Bundestag to deal with this weighty decision again.

Another frequently raised question in peace movement circles is whether there can be forms of protest that are not legal but legitimate.

A case in point is the trade union appeal to all working people to down tools on 5 October in a demonstration for peace.

Only the employers and some conservative politicians have pointed out that this would be an illegal "political strike." The employers have the law on their side; but a similar five-minute demonstration was held to commemorate the assassinated industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer.

What matters is the issue of violence. The peace movement has stressed the non-violent nature of its demonstrations time and again. They stuck to this principle in Mutlangen and Bitburg despite the fact that many conservative politicians depict their blockade of the American military installation as "violence" (coercion).

Now there are some voices, especially in the Greens camp, that make it doubtful whether this peacefulness will prevail in the forthcoming "hot autumn."

Referring to the disappointing outco-

Said Eppler to Ellsberg: "different strategies."

What it all boils down to is the conflict that has existed throughout and that arises in every movement to continue or to consolidate what has been achieved?

Commented Klaus Vack, secretary of the Socialist Bureau, old socialist terminology: "I am fully faced with the question for the spearhead may be in the grassroots."

The way out of the through coincidence. Even cliding on whether to continue the blockade, there was Bitburg (where there were no sit-ins there was clearly no although the Bitburg did exactly the same as the parts in Mutlangen.

Those urging stronger action, Futher Berrigan, the Montgomery, the Green Mountain and Kelly and Robert East German who was citizenship) rushed to the to assist the "nameless" in the situation.

One of the posters they "Two Democracies": In the they were permitted to sit in Bitburg police dogs were down their necks.

A split in the Movement had because everybody found confirmed in his own way. Just a postponement.

Michael (Di Zek, 1983)

me of the Mutlangen sit-in. ver police tactics ensured that the kude did not really block the where the many VIPs who were sit-in prevented its clearing ce, the national manager of the building capacities still further.

Since the Mutlangen action, he other such actions and the best for them to merge.

llont tactics would be the which small groups would strategy of escalation."

His choice of words was make it difficult for him to he intends to reconcile such action with the principle of

Such verbal radicalism is both the peace movement public at large insecure. It points for what orders there are. Most well attract the very militant from which the peace movement been trying to distance itself.

The anti-nukes can hardly ed in provoking state authority and poorly thought out action.

What they should provoke is the politicians. But that requires imaginative tactics.

Non-violent mass protests in langan and Bitburg could be those in power to respond to the people's fears over the growing nuclear annihilation with more soothing words.

If the peace movement convincingly show the exists among the people, the is bound to put the deployment back on its agenda.

The willingness or unwilling politicians to enter into a with the public will ultimately hot "hot" the autumn will be.

(Nürnberg Nachrichten, 13 September 1983)

INDUSTRY

Workforce disillusioned at troubled shipyard



state governments were forced to jump into the breach time and again.

The past few years have seen a considerable improvement in the quality standards and the know-how of cheap non-European yards. This poses a threat to a field in which German yards had a virtual monopoly: the construction of sophisticated special purpose vessels.

The cries for help that now come from the medium sized yards that had been doing well in this specialised field are a warning signal that should be taken seriously.

There can be no doubt that the public sector in general and Bonn in particular must jump into the breach if Germany is to continue having a shipbuilding industry to reckon with.

What is needed is an about-turn in policies — but in exactly the opposite direction from the policy pursued by the present government.

Nobody can seriously believe that a big yard resulting from the merger will be viable without government support.

In April, the prime ministers of the coastal states drafted a list of demands that included additional assistance measures, among them subsidies for orders from abroad.

But even if these subsidies were to materialise, it would still be necessary to lay off 9,000 people. In any event, Bonn has refused to go along.

On 12 September, the workers of the Olling Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft AG (HDW) shipyard in Hamburg occupied their yard.

Following a staff meeting after a demonstration through Hamburg's city centre, the 2,000 workers who took part in the demonstration voted in favour of occupying the yard to prevent the layoff of about 2,100 out of a work force of 4,000.

The occupation (the workers stressed that it was not a strike) was intended to back up these demands:

● The stockholders (the federally-owned Salzgitter concern and the state of Schleswig-Holstein) are to meet with representatives of the Bonn government and the state governments of Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein and trade union and works council representatives to discuss the future of the yard (A delegation was sent to Bonn to bring about these talks.)

● The management board is to withdraw its list of people to be laid off, involving 1,354. The list was presented to the works council despite the fact that negotiations were in progress at the time.

● One of the three container ships which HDW is to build for the People's Republic of China to be built in Hamburg rather than in Kiel.

The metalworkers union representative at the yard, Dieter Melzer, had earlier told the staff meeting that the workers had only two rights: the right to work and the right of self-defence. He said that the HDW management board had forced them to defend themselves.

Otto Kock, the workers' representative, told his fellow staff members: "We

The medium sized yards have now also demanded federal assistance, saying that they would otherwise have to lay off 6,000 people.

The situation is disastrous. State coffers are empty (Bremen alone having pumped DM200m into the bottomless pit) and the jobless rate is alarming (14 per cent in Bremen). Yet Bonn does nothing.

Bonn regards it as its foremost aim to bring about a world-wide reduction of shipbuilding subsidies. That would not cost Bonn a penny but it would also achieve nothing because the chances of success are nil.

Unless Bonn wants to permit the nation's coastal regions to run to seed it will have no choice but to join the subsidies race.

But the coalition government opposes this on grounds of principle and because it is determined to rehabilitate its financial position by reducing the deficit as much as possible.

There are plausible reasons for this, but one of the possible approaches would be to keep the yards busy with future-oriented projects unrelated to shipbuilding.

They could build heating plants, filters for power stations, sewerage purification installations or machinery for the recycling of raw materials.

But this would require government interference with economic processes — which is unthinkable for CDU and FDP.

Whatever Bonn does, the public sector will have to foot the bill — be it for an active job-creation policy or be it to pay for additional thousands of jobless yard workers.

One could lament the death of a tradition-rich branch of industry and

Shipbuilding men mount a protest

won't permit them to take the yard away from us; we won't let them throw us out; we'll only let the police carry us away."

Said a Bremen speaker, alluding to the occupation of shipyard by workers: "If you're asked to bring your beds with you, say yes."

"Olive a signal and tens of thousands of metalworkers will follow you," the local head of IO Metall, Otto von Steeg, was told.

That day, some 1,500 blue and white collar workers left the staff meeting to march through the city. The demonstration was headed by women who had taken part in a hunger strike the previous week to draw attention to the mass layoffs.

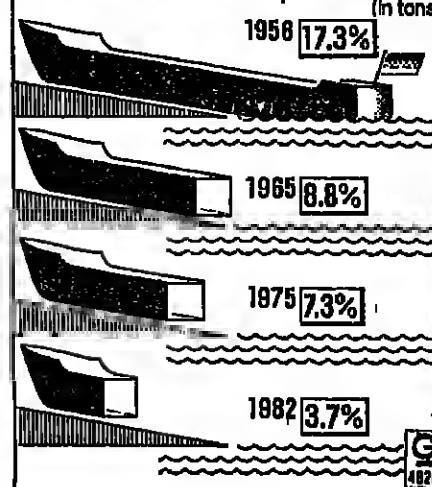
At a subsequent rally, Hamburg Mayor Klaus von Dohnanyi and worker representatives accused Bonn of leaving the shipyards in the lurch.

Said IO Metall spokesman Frank Telchmiller: "The HDW affair is teaching us a lesson that applies to the entire coastal region and the nation as a whole."

According to the mayor, Bonn has not yet come up with a blueprint for the crisis. He again accused the HDW management board of having either ignored the city administration's proposals or forwarded them to Kiel.

Shipbuilders' losing fight

German share of world production (in tons)



then revert to business as usual if the laid-off workers could find other jobs.

But there is little chance of this — neither in Bremen, nor in Hamburg nor in Kiel, where 4,000 yard workers are about to be laid off. And there is no end in sight.

Speculation some time ago that Daimler-Benz would employ 1,000 laid off Bremen yard workers has meanwhile been dashed by the auto makers.

And as to the 440 who are supposed to find work at the Vulkan yard, at least the same number will be laid off.

Even Bonn's recently passed regional promotion programme worth DM80m cannot change anything.

The Bremen Senate will have to match this amount — something that will take a great deal of sacrifice.

Even the firmly envisaged merger of the yards — be it with or without AG Weser — would cost the state at least DM30m, and perhaps even more.

Johannes Christ
(Kleiner Stadt-Anzeiger, 10 September 1983)

Ha said the City of Hamburg was prepared to help out financially if HDW were to build one of the three ships on order from China in Hamburg.

Meanwhile, the Bonn government still refuses to subsidise Germany's shipyards. This transpired in a discussion between Bonn Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg, Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff and Lower Saxony's Economic Affairs Minister Birgit Breuel, and Lower Saxony's Economic Affairs Minister Birgit Breuel.

The reasons Bonn gave for the rejection were essentially of a financial nature. But Bonn also fears that the Brussels EC Commission would turn down an assistance programme on legal grounds.

The economic affairs ministers of the four coastal states and Berlin demanded in mid-August that Bonn subsidise export orders at the rate of five per cent or DM600m a year.

According to Hanover government circles, the Bonn ministers concerned were, however, open-minded on supporting the coastal states in the fields of research and development.

Preparations for ministerial talks in late October or early November are to begin soon.

Informed circles say that the economic affairs ministers of the coastal states intend to meet soon to discuss the shipyard problems.

Birgit Breuel urged shipowners not to delay ordering new vessels.

But it is still unknown whether the states intend to launch a rescue programme for the yards.

VWD
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 13 September 1983)

Germany's chemicals industry has gone from slump to boom almost overnight. Shareholders had no sooner received apologies for poor dividends last year than they learned that first-half results this year showed a steep rise in profits.

Hoechst's six-month profit is up 44 per cent, Bayer's up 19 per cent and BASF's 12 per cent.

Chemicals is the third most important economic indicator after construction and cars. So this might mean that the long-awaited upturn is on the way.

Curiously, there have been no cries of joy from Bonn's economic pundits. This is probably because the news arrived during the summer recess.

There is plenty of reason for rejoicing because variations in profit affect more than a single branch of industry.

Last year's profits were bad not only because of the general slump on the markets for plastics, dyes, man-made fibres, fertilisers and general chemicals but also because most of the chemical companies shut down their unprofitable production facilities and the write-offs were reflected in the balance sheets.

This phase is over now, and there is general agreement that last year was the last year of getting rid of dead wood.

Chemicals, Germany's second largest industry, dealt rather silently with a fundamental problem of highly developed industries: obsolescence of products and the emergence of new competitors on world markets.

Like the notoriously crisis-bound industry such as steel, shipbuilding, coal-mining and textiles, chemicals was plagued after the 1970s oil crisis by rising costs for labour, energy and raw materials.

Excessive production capacities and undercutting competitors depressed

BUSINESS

Chemicals industry shows sharp rise in profits

both prices and the general mood in the boardrooms.

But unlike the steelmakers and shipbuilders, the chemical industry did not ask for the state's helping hand but rid itself of unprofitable products and looked for new ones.

The watchword by which the industry lived for a whole decade was: quality instead of quantity.

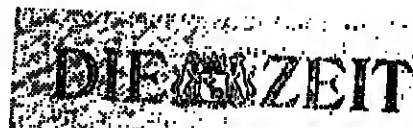
Competition, especially from cheap and ample to make run-of-the-mill products, grew. Supplied by German engineering firms, East Bloc and Far Eastern countries built one plant after another, producing fertilisers, simple man-made fibres and mass plastics in the 1970s.

Now, Opec countries like Kuwait are also crowding the market with cheap chemicals.

Bayer chief executive Herbert Grönewald two years ago said: "The chemicals industry has realised that it cannot compete with important petrochemicals from the Opec countries in the long run. This is why chemicals companies have begun to restructure the range of their products."

Much of this restructuring hollered down to tearing down. Quite a few once highly productive facilities were shut down, among them the Munich-based camera factory of the Bayer subsidiary Agfa and the Hoechst-owned fibre factory in West Berlin.

So were Hoechst's cellophane factory



Kalle in Wiesbaden, Enka's fibre factory in Kassel, Bayer's perlon manufacturing in Dormagen and the plastics factories of the Olefin works in Wesseling, in BASF's subsidiary.

But chemicals did not leave it at putting down. Its sights were levelled on the future.

At Bayer's annual meeting in July, Grönewald said: "We are deliberately switching to specialised fields where we hope to achieve growth. We know very well that our only security against run-of-the-mill products lies in research."

Despite meagre profits in the recession year 1982, Bayer boosted its research budget by ten per cent to DM1.5bn. Another DM200m is to be added this year.

Bayer's competitors also put added money into research.

The chemical industry was trying to come up with new and technically highly developed products.

Grönewald said about his company's withdrawal from run-of-the-mill products in favour of high-tech goods: "It works."

The move has been facilitated by the wide range of products in the chemical industry. Unlike in the steel and shipbuilding industries, which largely depend on one kind of product, the chemical industry is extremely diversified.

Even if man-made fibres, fertilisers, paints and dyes or plastics stop being profitable, the industry can switch to such money spinners as pharmaceuticals or insecticides and use the money made in those sectors to finance the re-voicing of the problem products.

Whether this new offensive is actually a way out will be shown by the products that generated nothing but losses in the past years: man-made fibres, plastics and fertilisers.

There has not been any money to be made in Europe with man-made fibres for years because new technologies have dramatically raised the output of fibre spinning plants and because Europe's textile industry — the main buyers of the spinners — has been virtually eliminated by Far Eastern competitors.

European manufacturers shut down production capacity of about 400,000 tons a year by 1982. Another 500,000 tons worth are still to be shut down.

The losses were staggering. The Wuppertal-based Enka, the leader in this line of business, closed 1975 (the worst year) with a loss of DM500m. Hoechst lost DM400m in its worst year; and Bayer also had nothing but losses with its fibre business, once one of its biggest money spinners.

The various companies cut back radically. Enka shut down 35 per cent of its production capacity at the cost of 15,000 jobs.

One-third of Hoechst's fibre workers had to look for other work.

At one time, man-made fibres accounted for 14 per cent of Hoechst's sales. Now the figure stands at nine per cent. And for Bayer, this ratio dropped from 15 to five per cent.

The shut-down plants were by no

means old and technologically advanced. Bayer, for instance, bought the Hülls fibre works and shut it down in 1978 only ten years after it had been built.

Most of the shut-down spinning plants that had been threaded for everyday textiles — tyhosas, shirts, carpets and so on.

The man-made fibre plant in Kassel was shifted to making thread for use in high-class textiles.

Enka, for instance, now makes foil and dialysis membranes.

Its top product is to be the high-strength aramid fibre.

Weight for weight, this has five times the tensile strength and is as suitable for vests as it is as an alternative for clutches.

In 1970, Enka's technical sales counted for 30 per cent of the total, but now they are up to 54 per cent.

The trend is similar with other chemical companies.

Hoechst planning manager Hofmeister: "Our fibre business stands for a successful transition."

Boyer has been so successful in the fibre business as to have doubled the increase in income. In 1974 to 1979, the cost of the fibre business rose to about 23 per cent, but the increase in income was 100 per cent.

This will strengthen our position," says section head.

The fact that Boyer is now a fibre producer makes it clear that this sector is no longer a loss-making business.

Away from everyday goods, of custom-made stuff is the new trend in the plastics sector as well.

Like in the case of fibres, cheap imports are spoiling the market for Europe's manufacturers.

Germany's most important manufacturers in this field, Hoechst lost DM220m and DM130m in 1982.

Scrapped

As a result, they scrapped half of their production capacity for polyethylene, the stuff plastic is made from.

About one-quarter of the facilities for polystyrene (a plastic used for packaging and insulation) have been scrapped. There were also losses in facilities for PVC, ne and ethanol.

Since there is little hope that prices will come up with new plastics, the chemical industry hopes on increasingly sophisticated specialised blends of already available plastics.

Ever more suitable plastic materials are now replacing metal in automobiles. Plastics are also used for electrical conductors, fire-retardant materials and more easily dyed.

The chemicals industry will produce less and sell more slowly but, its executives hope, it will improve.

The switchover from quantity to quality is unlikely to go off without a hitch — some of which are being made themselves felt.

Hopes of profit could be dashed by the fact that the new high-tech products will be very

Continued on page 7

EEEC

Common agricultural sense gets bogged down



ing has come of efforts to reform the EEC's common agricultural policy (CAP).

EEC's financial problems are steadily to CAP, which takes two of the budget.

In a year, a financial crisis is expected. The common agricultural policy makes political action now urgent then ever. But experience shows that Eurotechnocracy rules over the system in Brussels.

The system is firmly in the grip of those who don't want change. The gap between rising expenditures and less steeply rising revenues is widening.

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Continued on page 7

taching the reform plans of the Brussels Commission represent primarily the rich farmers.

The small and medium ones have not benefited from the policy of secure and constantly rising prices. The cream is skimmed off by farmers operating on an industrial scale.

This has prompted the Socialist Euro-MP Klaus Wetzig to raise the provocative question: "Is it justified to use the taxpayer's money to widen the income gap in agriculture still further?"

The fact is that nobody has ever taken the trouble to find out whether the billions that go into the surpluses have actually created or indeed even preserved jobs, as has been maintained time and again.

In 1981, the Brussels Commission urged that the agricultural policy be changed, but this went unheeded.

Stagnating and income cases declining demand for farm products is indicative of what the future holds in store. At the same time, technological progress has not stopped short of farms and is sure to make for even more surpluses in the future.

Europe's farmers will have to realise that they will have to accept lower prices and subsidies if their output exceeds a certain threshold or that they will have to bear the cost of selling their produce themselves," the Commission stated a few weeks ago.

Farmers organisations and politicians who are closely linked to them were outraged.

Irish commentators even went so far as to call such a sensible demand "the worst blow since the Republic came into being."

Denmark and the Netherlands are also profiting from the perpetuation of this untenable system. And without their approval Brussels is bamboozling. This makes it obvious what the future holds in store.

Agreement can be reached on details at best, and even then only under pres-

sure from the Community's finance ministers.

There is, however, one bright spot now: when Agricultural Commissioner Poul Dalsager groans "milk is the bugbear," the others don't instantly contradict him.

Like last year, this year's surplus production is likely to rise by 3.5 per cent. This means that the guarantee threshold will be exceeded by at least six per cent. The mere cost of taking these milk surpluses off the market would justify a 12 per cent price hike.

And since this would be an imposition on the consumer, it is the taxpayer who will have to foot the bill. It is also he who will have to pay for 10.5 per cent higher prices paid to dairy farmers in 1982/83 along with their tax relief.

This year, more than DM10bn (about one-fifth of the overall EEC budget) will flow into the pockets of the community of "milking experts" among the farmers.

Yet only the consumption of cheese and yogurt is rising in the Community; milk consumption has been going down for some time.

About 15 per cent of the Community's dairy products are not sold within the EEC. In fact, many farmers send produce straight to storage.

What is to be done with the 900,000 tons of butter likely to build up in cold storage by the end of this year? And what about the 1.3 million tons of surplus skimmed milk powder?

The drive to provide cheaper butter during Christmas cannot absorb any more of the surplus than it has before.

Yet farmers organisations emphasise that milk provides the main source of income for about two million European farmers. Creamery payments have become something like a monthly payroll.

Surpluses are now so big that they can't be paid for. The EEC Commission therefore advocates a quota system based on the 1981 output. The idea is to discourage creameries from going from one record output to another and the purchase guarantees for milk powder are to be suspended temporarily.

But small farmers whose few dairy cows are still taken to pasture can expect help from Brussels.

Bonn Agriculture Minister Kiechle — usually rather wary of Commission proposals — praised the latest suggestion saying that the German government

EEC farm surpluses

How the mountains have grown

	1 July 1982	1 July 1983
Butter	210 000 t	240 000 t
Milk powder	385 000 t	400 000 t
Wheat	1,886 MIL	1,900 MIL
Barley	153 000 t	160 000 t
Beef	53 000 t	500 000 t

thinks along similar lines in trying to restrict the production of further surpluses.

Still, nobody is thinking of letting the milk production and prices become governed by supply and demand. This would be pointless anyway because the lobby of agriculture ministers and farmers organisations would be bound to prevent the worst from happening.

The true problems therefore went unmentioned in Brussels and at the summit conferences in Stuttgart and Athens, despite the fact that Gaston Thörn, the president of the Commission, called for a new "creative spirit."

Nothing is being done to settle the latest European North-South conflict (between the dairy and grain farmers of the north who are the main beneficiaries of CAP for these products and the olive and wine farmers in the poorer south).

The differences between the living conditions of a Danish pig farmer and a Sicilian wine grower grow growing.

Bonn Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg set something in motion when he said that he no longer excluded the possibility of boosting the EEC budget by increasing its one per cent stake in the member nations' VAT.

The agriculture ministers held their ranks closed. And this hardly creates added scope for new initiatives, like an all-European drive to fight unemployment.

Rudolf Wagner
(Die Zeit, 9 September 1983)

Boom in chemicals industry

Continued from page 6

— perhaps too expensive to stand a chance in the market.

For instance, the world's largest chemicals concern, the American Dupont Corporation, recently had to withdraw its silk fibre Qiana from the market because it was too expensive to sell.

The same reason prompted Bayer to discontinue the development of a boil-proof, non-wrinkling polycarbonate fibre.

There is yet another problem: markets for sophisticated chemical specialties are small and the competition is bound to be much stiffer than with mass products.

Enka, for instance, will have to fight it out with the American giant Dupont when marketing its new aramid fibre. Dupont is already a market leader with its high tensile strength Kevlar fibre.

This makes it not surprising that Dupont and Enka are already involved in a bitter super-fibre patent dispute.

Insiders even go so far as to suspect that it will not be long before there are the same surplus production facilities for the aramid fibre as there used to be for textile fibres.

The starting positions of Germany's chemicals industry, in the race into the future are not equally favourable. Bayer and Hoechst are clearly in the lead.

The multinational Bayer Corporation has traditionally been very strong in the development of technical plastics. Moreover, it can fall back on its profitable pharmaceuticals and pesticide sectors.

Hoechst, on the other hand, seems to be cornering the business promise of the future: biotechnology.

The third of the giants, BASF, is bound to have a harder time switching from mass products to specialties.

When oil prices exploded in the 1970s, the company decided to swim against the stream and concentrate on the raw material petroleum.

Last year, when oil prices started de-

clining, BASF lost DM300m in its refinery business.

There were also losses in the fertilizer business, the third problem area after fibres and plastics.

BASF now seeks its salvation in the profitable business with information systems, especially audio and video tapes.

It is obvious that the changes in the chemicals industry cost jobs. The industry's payroll dwindled from 602,000 in 1974 to 560,000 last year.

But this does not fully reflect the employment changes. People are constantly losing their jobs in the chemical factories and finding new ones in other plants.

Hoechst alone achieved a turnover of 3,500 people in this way.

All in all, the revamped chemical industry with its specialised products will not create more jobs.

Hoechst personnel manager Richard Gehrmann: "We have learned to engage in a cautious personnel policy. Things won't be as they used to be."

Wolfgang Gehrmann
(Die Zeit, 9 September 1983)

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Redoubled efforts to control arms build up the only path open

There is no reason to gloat over the fact that Johanna Jordan has decided to end her first for peace in Bonn after 40 days.

This reaction should be one of relief and respect. She realised that peace cannot be forced into existence. It needs living and not dead martyrs if it is to be preserved and shaped.

Many people were moved by the action taken by the Bonn fashions.

Yet the underlying courage of despair feeds on the thoughtlessness of many politicians and media in the Federal Republic of Germany when they refer to the arms race. To hear them speak you would think that a holocaust is just round the corner.

It is therefore hardly surprising that individual people decide to do something to avoid disaster and doom. Suicide in this atmosphere seems like an anticipation of an inevitable Armageddon.

As one of the fastest Andrea Bulokovich put it: "We've only got one or two years left to live anyway."

This is not correct. We are not standing on the edge of a precipice. To believe that means a rejection of politics.

For politics is all about giving answers which are practicable. Politicians are not prophets from the Old Testament. Their worst mistake would be to conjure up disaster and then fail to provide realistic solutions to the problems facing mankind.

It seems to be common practice in Germany at the moment to talk only of the disaster to come and pass this off as politics.

The end of the world is not just around the corner.

Admittedly, it is depressing how we have had to make do with the kind of peace — or to be more accurate substitute for peace — based on the threat of mutual and unlimited destruction.

Yet such a threat is by no means its implementation. The substitute peace in this atomic age has stood the test to time. One reason is the sheer inconceivability of a nuclear war.

How else could we explain the fact that despite the fundamental differences between the political system and moral concepts of East and West, despite the worldwide arms build-up, despite wars and crises in Lebanon, Chad, Afghanistan and Nicaragua, the arrows of atomic war have up to now remained in their quiver?

The prophets of doom must be puzzled at the fact that the shooting down of the South Korean airliner with 61 Americans among the dead has only led to verbal skirmishes.

Before the bomb came along wars broke out for much less serious reasons. Now, however, Washington and Moscow are unanimous: dialogue must go on.

During a recent press conference the Soviet chief of staff Orgakov reacted most indignantly to the question whether the conflict between the major powers could be decided upon by a local commander, as in the case of the shooting down of the Jumbo over Sakhalin.

"It would be completely uncalled-for to draw analogous conclusions".

And President Reagan, whom no-one can accuse of exercising rhetorical restraint, admits in the latest edition of

Time magazine: "Of course, to begin with you think of retaliation, but that's just impossible."

In fact, he still supports a summit meeting with the leaders of a country which still refers to the killing of 269 people as a justified defence in reaction to a violation of Soviet air space.

Reagan: "If a summit helps our security, it ought to take place."

So alongside all the short-sightedness of armament and counter-armament, alongside all the mistrust and sabre-rattling, the language of reason can still be heard. The atom itself makes it necessary.

This does not mean that the substitute peace of deterrence should remain a long-term basis for security. It cannot.

People realised this long before the peace movement came along, although the demonstrators on the streets of Western Europe and the United States underline the point with greater thrust.

The bomb must be kept under control at all times to make sure that mutual deterrence does not suddenly trigger the actual use of nuclear potential.

However, this is no place for panic-mongering.

Anyone who claims that nuclear war is inevitable — as did Oskar Lafontaine in his book *Angst vor den Freunden* (Fear of our Friends), stating that computers make the decisions and not human beings, just doesn't know what he is talking about.

Mikhail Gorbachev's outburst is justified. Any decision on nuclear war, whether in America or Russia, is not taken by subordinates military commanders or by computers. The final button will be pressed by the political leaders.

These leaders have learnt from earlier mistakes. Both sides have built-in safeguards to make sure that in case of an

emergency only those in political power can decide, not any electronic brains.

The fact that of the 150 computer errors by American anti-aircraft defence listed by Oskar Lafontaine not one has left the President faced by a "nuclear decision" supports the reliability of deterrence rather than its susceptibility.

A group of experts from Harvard University, whose judgement is based on expertise and not on emotionalism, came to the conclusion:

"It would be a mistake to believe that a simple computer error or a nervous commander could bring about a nuclear war. Fortunately such scenarios are extremely improbable, not to say impossible."

However, nobody can rule out technical or human errors. The atomic age is not fool-proof.

For this reason East and West should never sit back and relax and leave everything up to deterrence.

The airliner incident over Sakhalin has underlined what is needed.

One is permanent contact between the leaders of the major powers. A crisis centre could be set up as suggested by the recently deceased Senator Henry Jackson, in which American and Soviet officers were involved. Such a centre may well have prevented the loss of 269 lives.

This close contact should not only be of a technical nature but also political. George Kennan wrote in 1960:

"Total unisonism can only result from the complete lack of effective communication. I therefore question whether the enemy we are always referring to can in fact only be regarded as an enemy." To keep on talking with one another is a strategic requirement.

Farvost efforts aimed at arms control are needed. The world has no option

Missiles deployment: Moscow still hoping West will be hamstrung

The Soviets are finding it easy to take a tough line towards the Americans in the talks of medium-range missiles which have resumed in Geneva.

Backed by propaganda, they are rigidly sticking to their position and waiting for the Americans to make the next move.

Only the SPD has clearly taken a step towards a definite no to Nato rearmament. It looks as if the party's grass roots has more influence on the issue than the party leadership.

Former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt is beginning to sound like a voice in the wilderness.

Because of the SPD attitude and the activities by the peace movement, Moscow must be hoping for a situation in which it becomes impossible politically to implement the Nato double-decision.

If the Soviets are in fact holding such hopes, they have obviously not recognised the signs of the times: the firm determination of the West to abide by the decision.

The incomprehensible and rash renunciation of any kind of rearmament by parts of the SPD before the negotiations in Geneva have come to an end supports any illusions the Soviets may

have. It does not, however, weaken the West's negotiating position.

During his press conference the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Koryenko had nothing new to offer.

He spoke of "wishful thinking" by the West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

The tug-of-war will continue about whether to include the French and British systems in negotiations.

Initially, the Soviets made no mention of these missiles. The suggestion came later.

This Soviet swiveling makes things more difficult and still remains a major stumbling-block in Geneva.

There was some new information on the level of Soviet armament from western sources.

More SS20 bases are to be set up and SS21s positioned. This doesn't help matters in Geneva.

Europe will have to wait to see who has the longest staying power. The remarks made by Koryenko at least indicate that there is no reason to hope that negotiations will come to a result in the near future.

Wolf Ullmann

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 15 September 1983)

but to try and regulate arms build-up.

This means hard work always rewarded by immediate performance than in any period talks in Vienna on the reduction of conventional military forces in years without clear results.

It is true that governments too mistrusting, too unimaginative. All too often their own inflexibility by their opposita numbers in fullings in a long one.

Against this background of the man on the street is also a good

Yet to dismiss the effects of arms, as is often done by peace movers, as a mere hind is not fair.

Critical examination of armament plan is necessary whether it really is absolutely for our security.

The balance of nuclear powers of the need to each procurement by the same way. Otherwise, there would be an end in itself.

The arms manufacturers' lobby sees the counter-reaction: power is back in fashion.

Best-engine motor sales have been during the last three quarters, whereas sports versions have been in demand.

It is time that a feeling of fence which has to resort to weapons after the first nuclear provides no security.

These three necessary political judgement and the termination to carry them out.

Where politics fails, fear, the other hand, if there is disaster politics often fails.

Those who prophesy a must provide answers to questions. Seeing as the best and that we cannot undo what is done, how can we come to the bomb? A denuclearised

The bomb has no barren limited wars.

Should we break up our Security cannot be guaranteed the backing of friends.

Should we develop just a nuclear defence strategy? Nuclear will still exist.

Should be renounce The threat to Western Europe still be there.

All these answers are not good enough. Yet anyone who is to be taken seriously must provide answers, regardless of rearmament.

Resolutions such as the Baden-Württemberg SPD during party conference are not

They may create a good within the Opposition or their conscience is clear, but more than this.

If the security debate is just a picture of impending disaster will not only find it difficult but lose its credibility.

This was one warning by in Bonn. The apocalypse is not for peace policies. Politics is chance.

The governments have a all they can to use this. This is no time for empty rhetoric.

Christoph

(Die Zeit, 16 September 1983)

THE MOTOR INDUSTRY

A year for sprinters, show reveals

Bodywork is partly made of carbon-fibre reinforced synthetic material to save weight. The standard model has leather reclaro seats, a central locking system and stereo radio.

An anti-blocking system is available at an additional price — and this despite the fact that the Quattro Sport already costs DM 195,000.

The small car is yet another part of the clever marketing plan developed by the head of Audi, Wolfgang Habel, hoping to take Audi into the luxurious class.

Ingolstadt are at least guaranteed one superlative: the Quattro Sport is Germany's most expensive car.

After presenting the diesel, Munich-based BMW is going for sportiness. It has got the M 635 CSI ready for the Frankfurt Show. It is claimed to be the "world's fastest four-seater series coupé".

The transmission system of an earlier BMW sports car M-1 has been transplanted into the older (eight years) coupé shape.

The 3.5 litre engine with four valves per cylinder has 286 hp performance and the super BMW is said to top 255 kmph.

However, during trial runs the pre-series model did not match expectations.

The exterior differs from its lower-priced brother coupé as follows: the front skirting is larger and there is a more conspicuous rear spoiler. The interior is also more luxurious. The price for this newcomer: DM 89,500.

Sportiness is the name of the game for Daimler-Benz, too. The motor show will show a sports version of the 190 model running under the name 190 E 2.3-16.

The sports saloon has broad tyres, front and rear spoilers and slides which move further down towards floor level.

It has a 2.3 litre engine with 16 valves (no turbocharger), has 185 hp and can do 240 kmph.

Just in time for the show, Daimler-Benz set up a new world record at the Italian racing circuit in Nardò: 50,000 kilometres at full throttle averaging 247 kmph.

At a price of DM 45,000 the small sports Mercedes is an attractive offer.

The new 190D is better-priced yet slower. Thanks to engine capping this will be the quietest diesel car in the world.

In Frankfurt he will be showing a

The two-litre engine only requires seven litres for 100 kilometres, thus moving into the group of the most economical cars.

Flat has not yet opted for sportiness. During the show, the head of Fiat, Vittorio Ghidella, will be presenting the Regata, a notchback version of the Ritmo which is to replace the programme's current 131.

The engine range is between 68 and 100 hp. With 513 litre boot space volume the Regata can show its face alongside the VW Jetta and the Ford Orion.

The ES version of the Regata has a City-Matic; if the car has to stop at a red traffic light the engine switches off automatically and on again automatically as soon as the foot is put back on the accelerator pedal.

Ford has still not gone for sporty models, although the preparations are under way.

The most important current Ford car is the Orion, a notchback version of the Escort.

The small Ford Fiesta, unchanged since 1976, gets a new more streamlined front and a more pulled-down bonnet — as competition Fiesta customers who are considering the Opel Corsa.

In addition, the Escort-convertible will have its premiere in Frankfurt.

Opel: Corsa-Sprint is the name of the new version of the mini Opel.

With wing extension and a 1.3 litre engine, the car has 126 hp. The small white car is still in the development stage.

Nissan, better known as Datsun are offering an elegant, harmoniously designed sports coupé, the Silvia.

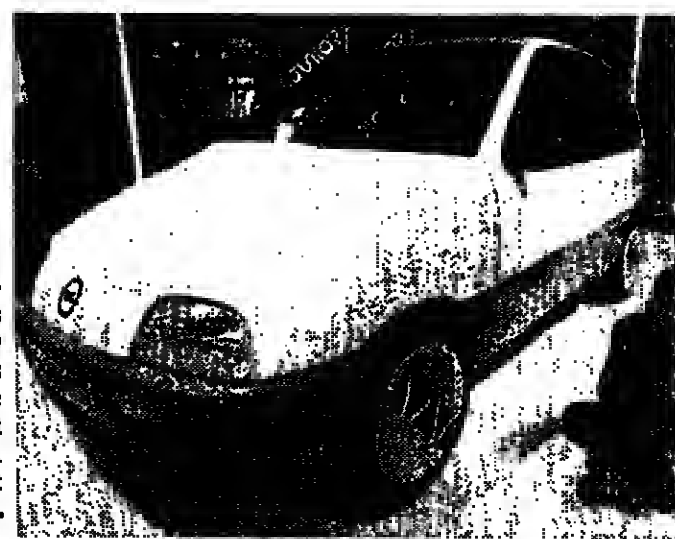
The customer can choose between a two-litre 16-valve engine with 145 hp or a 1.8-litre turbo engine with 137 hp. The four-seater can then reach a speed of 205 kmph.

The Silvia will start selling in April 1984, and will definitely be tough competition for the Toyota Celica.

Sports car specialists Porsche are the most affected by the new sporty trend.

Porsche boss Peter Schutz is well equipped for the new challenge.

In Frankfurt he will be showing a



The Opel Junior, still only a prototype.

completely renovated 911: as "Carrera". In the rear section there is a new 3.2-litre engine, which has a performance of 231 hp and can hit 245 kmph.

The letters "SC" at the back are replaced by "Carrera".

The new car has a six per cent improvement in fuel economy (compared to the previous model) and is equipped with an indicator for brake wear.

The rear wing from the turbo is to be recommended by the Porsche salesmen to its Carrera customers.

Porsche also have the — slightly revised — 928 S in Frankfurt. Due to the new Bosch motronic ignition, the 928 S does 310 hp, enabling a top speed of 260 kmph.

For the first time Porsche will also be providing an anti-blocking system — as an extra.

Volkswagen has also recognised the sign of the times. Its Scirocco will be getting a lavish 1.8-litre 136 hp engine for the Motor Show, allowing speeds of up to 210 kmph for the small coupé.

More important for the VW manufacturers is the fate of the new Golf II.

Although at first glance it looks exactly the same as its predecessor, it is in fact a completely new car.

The new Golf has more room inside and better motoring qualities. An interesting aspect is that the new Golf looks like the "Laneo Delta" — particularly in the rear-light section.

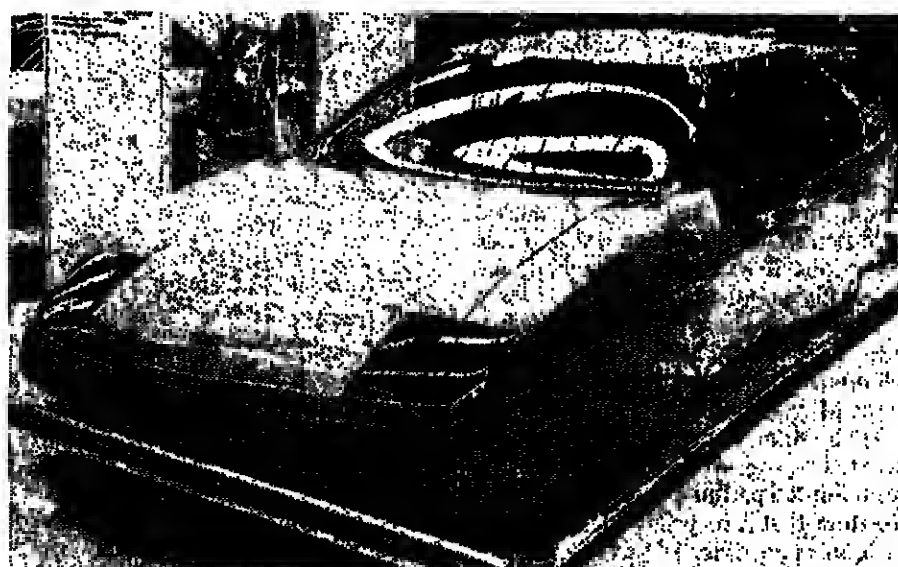
This is no coincidence. Well over a decade ago, the original design for the Golf was provided by the Italian star designer Giorgetto Giugiaro.

German VW re-modelled his design Giugiaro, angry at this move, then sold his — slightly improved — design to Lancia.

Hanns-Peter Rosellen
(Rheinische Merkur/Christi und Welt,
9 September 1983)



Mercedes-Benz 190 E 2.3-16



Ford's experimental car

(Photos: Sven Simon dpa)

Many parts of the Baltic Sea will be still romantic and picturesque: the Swedish skerries, the steep coasts of Rügen or the chalk cliffs of the Danab Island of Mön, not to mention the many beautiful sandy beaches.

However, there are other parts where living organisms find it difficult to survive: the oil-polluted bays and the concrete jungle along much of the coast.

If the seven countries bordering the North Sea do not act fast the days of the Baltic Sea will be numbered.

Fish diseases caused by dumped filth

The Federal Republic of Germany says it plays a leading role in environmental protection.

The great number of laws and decrees issued in this field would appear to confirm this.

However, the dying German forests tell a different tale. They suggest that there is still a long way to go before there can be talk of success in environmental protection.

The sick trees are just one area which underlines failings.

Another is the alarming example of the North Sea. It has been misused for years by its bordering countries, first and foremost by the Federal Republic of Germany, as a huge rubbish dump.

Of course, the water provides a convenient carpet which covers up the filth which has been dumped.

However, German fishermen in the North Sea must foot the bill for the waste which pours out of the sewage pipes from coastal towns and is dumped by so-called *Giltschiffe* (ships of poison).

Up until a few years ago there were only four known fish diseases in the German Bight. Today there are nine.

Twenty two of all the fish species living in the German Bight are regularly affected by illness caused by environmental pollution and 3.7 per cent of the herring larvae from the southern North Sea show skeletal changes.

"Although everyone is aware of this, everything goes on as if nothing has happened."

Permission will probably be granted to the titanium dioxide producers Kronos-Titan and Pigment-Chemie to continue dumping over a million tons of *Dünnschlur* in the North Sea until 1992. This toxic substance is 18 per cent sulphuric acid.

The Federal Ministry of Transport responsible for such an approval refers for its justification to the Oslo Convention in which this type of waste disposal is permitted under two conditions: if it is thought necessary by public interest and if on-shore disposal is impossible.

Both exceptions are no longer valid. The public interest argument, which according to the two chemicals companies is the threat to jobs if approval is not given, does not hold. The fishermen who fish in the North Sea will also lose their jobs if their fishing grounds are gradually poisoned.

And an on-shore recycling procedure had long since been developed for *Dünnschlur* with the support of Transport Ministry money.

If a new dumping permission is granted, it can only be hoped that it is for a limited period and is tied to the ultimatum that a recycling plant be built as soon as possible.

Christian Schneider
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 23 August 1983)

THE ENVIRONMENT

Baltic Sea threatened by early biological death

The reduction in the once flourishing plant and animal world may mean an alarmingly early biological death.

The sea eagles, at one time at home here, have disappeared altogether. It is claimed that there are only about 200 seals left. About a quarter of 422,000 square kilometres of Baltic Sea is already regarded as biologically dead or at great risk.

The Baltic has been having hard times for about 15,000 years because it is an inland sea.

It was created following the retreat of the glaciers during the last Ice Age and the subsequent ground elevations virtually cut it off from other seas. As a result there are no tides and no regular exchange of water.

The only link to the North Sea is via the Kattegatt between Denmark and Norway. A complete replacement of water by new seawater takes 25 years. The salt content varies in different parts of the Baltic.

The sea has been moving towards a gradual biological death for many years. The countries bordering it (Norway, Sweden, Finland, the USSR, Poland, and both parts of Germany) have been speeding things up during the last few decades. The 125 million people living in the coastal regions use the sea for sailing, military training, transporting tankers, fishing and dumping toxic waste.

Toxic wastes pose a great threat. A Stockholm University authority has pointed out that the balance between the plankton and the benthos, that is between the micro-organisms on the water's surface and those at the bottom

of the sea, is in great danger of being upset. An imbalance is to be expected in many parts soon.

But this isn't all. Another great danger is a vast increase in algae, which rob the sea of oxygen, thus gradually killing the fish.

The toxic waste dumped in the sea, such as DDT, mercury and lead, also finds its way into the human body via the fish we eat.

The refuse deposited in the sea by human beings is not the only threat to the future of the sea and its fish.

Industrial fishing methods, which are only interested in quantity, are a danger.

As a member of the Swedish Fishing Authority's research laboratory explained, although the Baltic only covers 0.2 per cent of the world's total sea area it accounts for 1.2 per cent of total fishing.

The fishing rate has increased nine times within only 80 years, currently 900,000 tons are caught each year.

Following an extremely dry summer it is hoped that the first storms expected at the end of September will improve the dramatic situation at least a little.

In the long run, however, the oxygen-rich seawater squeezed into the Baltic from the North Sea by the autumn storms will not provide noticeable relief or improve the quality of the water.

The seven coastal states have only been working together on rescue measures since 1974. An environmental protection convention was drawn up in Helsinki that year.

This convention, which was ratified by the Federal Republic of Germany in

March 1980, obliges the countries to meet once a year in Helsinki to discuss ways of keeping the Baltic clean.

Although the different countries in the countries affected by the question the workability of the mission, there have already been agreements (eldest mainly on pollution to be taken).

There is no exclusively socialist way to keep the sea clean. Up until now, there have been no agreements on cleaning oil tankers on the water. They now have to let out special tanks in the sea.

The transport of particularly dangerous goods has to be officially controlled. Pessimists regard the convention as more of a "moral watchdog" than anything else, pointing out that the analysis economic interests have priority than environmental efforts.

Emmanuel (Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 September 1983)

Acid rain on concrete

Steel and concrete are sensitive to pollution, say the Rhineland landscape which regularly inspects round bridges.

They say the concrete is being attacked by acid rain.

No-one thought about problems when this bridge was built. Today, many concrete structures are crumbling, cables becoming damaged to road surfaces is

Subsidence and salt water causes of damage.

The landscape association DM55m a year to have damaged. Bridge maintenance costs than doubled over the past

(Rheinische Post, 1 September 1983)

Has man begun to engineer his own doom?

should play a greater part in university research and teaching, says Professor Ritter, otherwise the universities will degenerate into politically and socially second-rate institutions.

"I believe that this congress is a most unusual event, with university lecturers, politicians, administrative personnel and practical experts exchanging ideas on the future."

At the moment we are so taken up with everyday problems and crisis management that we often fail to ask ourselves where the journey will lead."

As part of this congress, a Unesco exhibition entitled *Der Mensch und die Biosphäre* (Man and his Biosphere) was opened in Frankfurt's Senckenberg Natural History Museum: 80 countries and over 1,000 scientists took part in Unesco's action programme.

Attention focused among other things on technological problems, problems of fertilisation and of environmental pollution.

German experts concentrated on the influence of man on tropical and subtropical forests, the spreading of the desert and the problems facing the Alps.

Another research topic was the envi-

THE CINEMA

New forms between the rigid clichés

Alexander Kluge's latest film *Die Macht der Gefühle* (The Power of the Feelings), which was premiered during the International Film Festival in Venice, is a closer look at how to come to grips with the world without deceiving yourself.

Operas tend to have tragic endings, films usually go for the happy ending. Does this mean that films are more

the title of Kluge's film is misleading. Kluge points out, the film deals with these feelings are "organised", they organise themselves, by changing outside influences, murder and

the 20th century cinema has been a public centre for emotions, a stage side of life yielding to the final. The present trend is to

spirit of the 19th century was to reveal the truth, which explains the deadly earnest of many operas.

Macht der Gefühle takes up the theme of Kluge's first film *Abschied vom System* (Goodbye to Yesterday) in 1965. Kluge is stock-taking, seeking evidence, providing a vi-

Today, many concrete problems when this bridge was built. Today, many concrete structures are crumbling, cables becoming damaged to road surfaces is

Subsidence and salt water causes of damage.

The landscape association DM55m a year to have damaged. Bridge maintenance costs than doubled over the past

(Rheinische Post, 1 September 1983)

ronmental strain on the Low Countries. Air pollution was measured in organisms such as lichens, mosses, tree-hark.

Professor Will Ziegler, director of the Senckenberg museum, pointed out that the extinction of animals is four times greater than that of the past.

By the year 2000, he claimed, the extinction rate caused by human action will probably be 40 to 50 per cent greater than today.

Professor Ziegler said: "There have always been cases of mass extinctions, the dinosaur for example. In all this is nothing compared to what is happening today."

The exhibition in the Senckenberg museum is open until the end of September.

A large number of ecological and cultural factors will be presented referring to examples and problems during the past ten years.

Thirty six posters illustrate the important problems facing mankind: mental planning, the supply of materials and the relationship between man and his environment.

There are five central topics: the global approach to environmental planning, rain forest, fringe zones, mountainous regions, and urbanisation, and the

Albert Becker (Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 7 September 1983)



Hanna Schygulla and Piotr Lysak... playing with fire in 'Eine Liebe in Deutschland'. (Photo: Scania)

Festival shows that children's films can be top quality

The Children's Film Festival taking place in Frankfurt presents a welcome alternative to the poor selection of children's films usually shown by the "established" cinemas.

The festival shows just how varied children's films can be: 13 new productions from 12 countries were chosen (Holland, Romania, China, Finland, Upper Volta, Australia, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, the Philippines, Italy, USSR and the Federal Republic of Germany).

Many focus on the clash between different cultures, on the loss of tradition, on fears and on dreams.

The Philippines film, *Turumba*, makes a stand against western influences on life in the Philippines. Kadu lives with his family in Pakil near Manila.

His family earns a living by making papier-mâché figures, which they sell on the edges of the road during the annual processions.

This central theme is accompanied by shots showing the most important areas of culture and everyday life in the country.

Expressions such as competitive pressure, lack of time or career-mindedness are unknown. Happiness and content-

tedness exist because of an intact social network embedded in old traditions.

This harmony is destroyed when a German businessman discovers the quality of the papier-mâché figures and places more and more export orders.

Kadu finds it difficult to adjust to the new conditions. The family receives compensation in the form of a television set, a new car and finally a flight to West Germany.

The Australian entry, *Manganinnie*, is also critical of the results of so-called civilisation.

Manganinnie, the red-fire woman, sees how her tribe is hunted down and murdered by white settlers.

Protected by only a burning torch she fights her way through the wilderness. Her journey is full of despair, longing, loneliness. Anger and resignation set in.

Director John Honey carefully and vividly presents the distress and helplessness of this human being in his film.

The clarity of his criticism is both moving and captivating.

Manganinnie not only provides information but also food for thought about our own situation. It is one of the best films.

The Dutch production *Kämpfen um beide* (German title: *Fighting for both of them*) deals with a problem of today, an everyday story.

Freddy's parents want to get a divorce. Freddy doesn't understand the situation and leaves home.

His only hope is Saskia, his girlfriend, whose parents have also separated. She belongs to a club of children with divorced parents.

In this group Freddy finds a hide-out and, what is more important, understanding.

The film does not omit harsh realities which indicate the genuine commitment of its director.

Despite the serious nature of the film there are no frightening sequences. Amusing scenes with their bright colours manage to break the serious mood of conflict and quarrels. The film's message is hope.

Even if the parents decide on a divorce it's not the end of the world. This point is conveyed well by the film.

Fairy tales have a special part to play

Continued on page 12



Kreutzsch-Betty (played by Suzanne von Borsody) at the border in 'Die Macht der Gefühle'. (Photo: Futura Film)

Divorce rate climbs as ideas about permanence of marriage change

The divorce rate is skyrocketing in West Germany. More than one in four marriages since 1956 have ended in divorce.

In 1982, a record year, 118,483 couples were divorced. Is marriage as an institution dying out?

Hard though it is to be married, the marriage game remains popular. The annual number of marriages has remained constant at between 340,000 and 360,000 over the past ten years.

But taking into account the number of marriages that end in the traditional way through death (315,000 a year) the number of existing marriages is clearly going down.

Psychologists and sociologists are agreed that our social values are undergoing fundamental change.

"The value of marriage is waning," says Hans Asmus of Tübingen University's Sociology Department.

And psychologist Rolf Kirchner of the Family Affairs Counselling Centre of the German Family Law Forum in Stuttgart suggests that "many people who get married today no longer do so with the idea of staying married for life."

Legal aspects play a secondary role here. The change of divorce laws that came into effect on Jan. 1, 1977, doing away with the "guilty party" principle, has had no effect on the overall number of divorces, according to the Bonn Justice Ministry.

After a brief decline in the number of divorces due to the need to adjust to the new law, the figures rose again, continuing the trend that had existed until 1976. The number of divorces has risen two-and-a-half-fold since the mid-1950s.



They blame this on the invasion of family life by television and other electronic media.

Tübingen University professor Reinhard Lempp (who is the medical director of the University's Youth and Child Psychiatry Clinic) and frequently has to deal with broken marriages blames the rise in the number of divorces on two main factors: the dwindling number of children who frequently keep a marriage together and the decline of religious ties.

The Stuttgart Family Affairs Counselling Centre points to the growing strain imposed on family life.

"With the intimacy of its relations, marriage is expected to assume additional functions in an increasingly depersonalized society. The family has become the focal point and the demands it has to meet have grown," says lawyer Volker Rabau, chairman of the German Family Law Forum.

The declining ability to communicate from person to person makes matters even worse. "People no longer know how to talk to each other," says Rabau and Kirchner.

They blame this on the invasion of family life by television and other electronic media.

Accompanying this is a growing inability to cope with crises. "Conflicts that arise hit people like a natural disaster."

The economic slump makes for even more marital conflicts, says Hans Asmus. He points to his observation that intact families tend to close ranks in a crisis while those that already have cracks fall apart.

The new divorce law with its pension splitting has provided divorced women with more material security, which explains why it is predominantly women who seek a divorce, says Rabau. Close to 60 per cent of divorce suits are filed by women.

But the roots sure to go far beyond financial considerations.

"Emancipation has encouraged more and more women to demand things for themselves. Never before have so many women had the skills needed to hold a job and they no longer want to be just housewives," says Reinhard Lempp, seconded by Hans Asmus.

While women — indirectly supported by the feminist movement — have thus become more conscious of the avenues open to them, there is no such boost to the man's ego. In fact, some men become insecure, says Asmus.

One of the most frequent sources of problems in new marriages lies in the fact that men are unable to handle the umbilical cord that ties them to their parents, says Reinhard Lempp.

In his experience, it is a man who is unable to get away from his mother's apron strings, and who raises the wife's hackles.

"The main victims of marital conflicts are the children. The result of their never experiencing how marriages going. Bad marriages, 'hereditary' or good marriages, Lempp.

Does all this mean that marriage will continue to rise?

Lempp is reluctant to cast. He points to the fact that marriages are spreading, saying that marriages without a certificate are spreading.

Living together

The fact is that the number of illegitimate marriages has risen. According to estimates by the Institute for Demography in Wiesbaden, about one million illegitimate marriages were registered in West Germany in 1980 — three times the figure of 1960.

Is this type of marriage replacing the old-fashioned marriage? The Stuttgart Counselling Centre believes in a renaissance of the family. Pointing to the Greens, who suggest that the nation has moved from materialistic values and from the materialistic values of the 1960s to a more spiritual and biological food outlets. This was His forecast is on the optimistic side for the nation, as a whole.

The challenges confronting the family are not insurmountable. biologically grown foods are not better than natural foods, says a report by agricultural researchers.

conclude after extensive tests that the biological food of thought is a sham. The report has caused a row in environmental circles. It was put together by the collective name for three research institutes at Olmspeyer and Weihenstephan, which concludes that biological food does not taste better than other food.

not healthier. It does not guarantee good health and does not help prevent cancer. The main difference turned out to be that biological food often cost about double the price of regular food.

findings were reached after tests of 1000 samples of everyday food, bread, fruit and vegetables from all over Germany. Examination was for traces of toxic substances including heavy metals, weedkillers and pesticides.

Residues were also made on vitamins, smell and taste. The magazine *Natur* says the study is the most thorough ever taken direct from bio farms and goods in bio shops.

The idea behind the survey was to answer the question: Is the food in the form in which it is sold to the consumer.

The analyses also showed that the toxic substances — if they existed at all — were mere traces in both varieties of food and posed no danger whatsoever to the consumer.

There were also next to no differences between biological and regular food regarding such heavy metals as cadmium.

cal product while the other was regular food of the kind found in any shop.

Only four per cent of the food farmed with modern fertilizers showed minimal and absolutely harmless traces of the 45 types of residue substances under examination. The figure for biological food was 2.7 per cent.

Only one per cent of the specimens over the three-year period of the survey exceeded maximum permissible levels of toxic substances to the point where legal action could have been taken; but they still remained well below the danger threshold for human consumption.

Four of the specimens were from modern farms and three from so-called bio-farms.

The researchers conclude: "It would be untenable and misleading to label food produced without chemicals as quality food while branding the rest as inferior."

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HEALTH

Biologically grown foods just a sham — researcher



Neither variety contained dangerous fungi — like aflatoxin — that could cause cancer.

Polychlorinated biphenyl was found in scattered cases; but the concentration was 0.05 mg per kilo or less, putting it well below the danger threshold.

The amount of residue was equal in the two types of food.

The analysis of mercury concentrations was abolished after a year because, if they existed at all, they were so small as to be untraceable.

No difference in the nitrate content of the two types of potatoes, lettuce and carrots was found.

Carrots had higher concentrations than the other vegetables, but that was simply due to the special properties of the carrot.

The nitrate content in broad and apples was so low that no further analysis was made.

The comparison of vitamins, taste and smell showed almost no differences between the two.

The conclusion was that the nutritive value of food could not be improved by buying biological products.

But the consumer who buys all or much of his food from the same producer runs the risk of not getting enough nutrition, particularly consumers who buy their food from a single bio-farmer.

The survey has proved that modern agriculture and the chemical industry — if one disregards a few exceptions — have been unjustly criticised.

Thus nullifies the Green party (environmental class struggle slogan: "Because you're poor and cannot afford expensive bio-products you must die earlier.")

The only thing in which bio-products differ from the rest is their price, which is frequently double.

The LUFA survey has hit the Greens like a ballroom.

The magazine *Natur* is now trying to regain lost ground by maintaining that the study is worthless because the specimens used by the researchers were not taken directly from bio-farms and gardens but from bio-shops that mislabeled their goods.

LUFA manager Helmut Targus has rejected this accusation. He says it is a "malicious distortion of facts."

The Greens levelled the charges only because the scientific results of the study don't fit their ideology, he said. The analysis methods were absolutely above board and would stand any check.

The results must be taken as representative and unimpeachable — especially in view of the fact that only 0.1 per cent of German arable land is farmed biologically.

Helmut Targus stressed that his organization had no intention of maligning the so-called bio-scene and that its only aim was to find out whether food produced with modern methods actually contained more toxic substances than the biological kind. It does not. This has now been clearly established.

Rainer Sachdev (Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, 9 September 1983)

Dieter Schwab (Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 September 1983)

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Biologically grown foods not just a sham — researcher

Professor Hartmut Vogtmann of Kassel University has the distinction of being West Germany's only university professor who deals entirely with biological farming methods.

This naturally makes him more open-minded than his colleagues towards the problems and products of bio-farmers. But the ways in which experts on conventional farming and those on bio-farming tackle some of the problems are similar.

Take the nitrate content in vegetables and drinking water while the due to the use of nitrate-based fertilizers that are vital to plant life.

The trouble with these fertilizers that they provide plants with more nutrients than they can absorb. As a result, the plant fills up on nitrates, leaving the excess to find its way to the water table.

The nitrate is transformed into nitrite in the saliva, and the nitrite in its turn can easily turn into nitrosamines which are suspected of causing cancer and having an adverse genetic effect.

A special commission of the German Research Association puts the critical level of the daily nitrate intake at 40 mg. Exceeding this level leads to conspicuous nitrate concentrations in the saliva.

The nitrate level in Switzerland — whose research institutions Professor Vogtmann closely cooperates with — is more than twice this figure, with the daily intake of 91.1 mg.

Most of the intake — 70 per cent — is accounted for by vegetables, while the rest comes from drinking water.

The figures, which are likely to be the same in Germany, have prompted Professor Vogtmann to urge that the use of nitrates in agriculture be reduced in favour of animal manure. This would supply the plants with sufficient nutrients without undesirable side effects.

The fertilizer industry has adopted a similar concept and is now supplying special products that are absorbed equally slowly.

Professor Vogtmann sees this as an indirect proof that biological farmers are not too far off the mark.

But the difficulties lie in the details. Not every plant fertilised with animal manure provides the hoped for increased yield.

This calls for careful planning by the farmer, though little is known about the mechanics that play a role.

Professor Vogtmann is therefore carrying out a series of tests to establish how individual plants react to the different types of fertilizer.

This difference in the plant's reactions also makes it difficult to come up with commercially feasible biological farming methods.

The differences can also serve to explain some of the conflicting results of various research projects.

Professor Vogtmann also stresses the necessity of taking dry substances as the basis of comparison between biological and conventional farm produce.

Since conventionally grown fruit contains more water than the biological variety, the latter has an edge.

Taking into account that the biological produce has a longer storage life, there is much to be said in favour of this type of farming, Professor Vogtmann holds.

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Film festival

Continued from page 11

In this year's festival. Dopey kings, wicked thieves, dangerous dragons, noble ladies and plenty of intrigue are shown in the Czechoslovakian and Soviet productions. The ideal world cliché with the happy end of classic fairy tale films.

Konrad aus der Konservendose (Konrad from the canned food tin) is a fairy tale with a difference.

The film turns the world topsy-turvy, dreams are suddenly reality and children do everything they are normally not allowed to do: be cheeky, paint walls.

How does all this happen? Well, Konrad is a well-educated lad but unfortunately he is handed in at the wrong address.

As he wants to stay with Frau Bartolotti and has to learn how to become a proper, i.e. a cheeky child.

This West German production from Claudia Schröder casts doubt in an unconventional way on the usual educational categories and encourages children to have more fun in life.

If anybody claims that there are not enough children's films worth watching this year's festival proves him wrong.

The growing interest for this film genre should be a signal for film producers to devote more attention to children's films in future.

Andrea Scherell

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 7 September 1983)

One-parent families: prejudices on top of the other problems



where the traditional roles of men and women are concerned.

For instance when asked whether a single father with small children should stay home and mind the children, living on social welfare if necessary, or whether he should "be a proper man and earn a living," the traditional view that a man should work prevailed among the respondents.

This view was most conspicuous among those over 55 and those from the lower social strata.

Dr Napp-Peters concludes that single fathers who devote themselves entirely to home and children can expect little understanding and support from these people.

Most of these respondents said that their rigid attitude stemmed from the fact that "a man's dignity" rests on his earning a living and providing for his family.

Ninety per cent of all respondents went so far as to say that fathers of children of school-going age should hold a "decent job."

But virtually none of those who held this view had given any thought to the fact that this would mean that the children would be without supervision while not at school. Nor did they give

any thought to who would look after them during school hours when they were sick.

And it is these "in between" attitudes that cause single parents the most headaches, says Dr Napp-Peters.

The role of the single mother in an entirely different light. More than three-quarters of the respondents held that she should stay home and mind her small children — not because they need their mother but because it is better for her to be at home and family.

But the same number of respondents considered it better if a mother of children of school-going age held a regular job.

However, the reason given was not that this was better for the reputation and well-being of the mother but that the children now needed her that much.

By and large, Dr Napp-Peters says, the public is rather sceptical about the functions of single child-rearing parents.

Eighty-five per cent doubt that a single parent can do justice to a child's needs and 78 per cent have doubts regarding the single parent's ability to provide for his family.

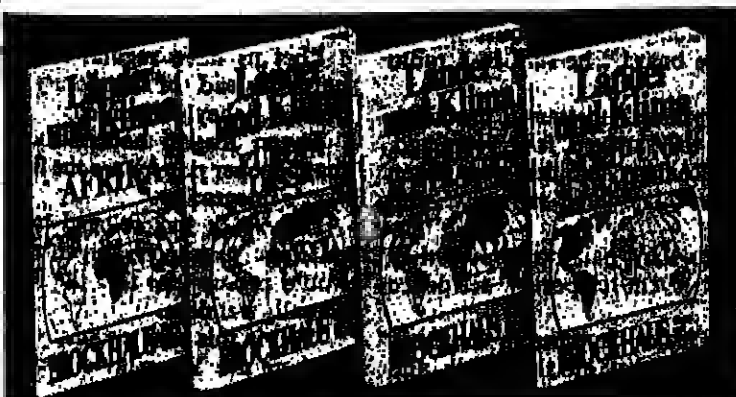
The father, they say, cannot provide the necessary warmth and security that a mother does not have the time to give that is a must in child-rearing.

Rolf Degen (deutscher Anzeiger, 10 September 1983)

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Rolf Degen (deutscher Anzeiger, 10 September 1983)

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